

*Watford
Central
District*

REPORT

ON THE STATE OF

PUBLIC HEALTH

IN THE

URBAN DISTRICT OF BUSHEY

URBAN DISTRICT OF CHORLEYWOOD

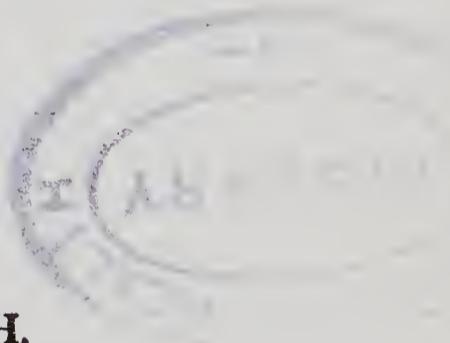
URBAN DISTRICT OF RICKMANSWORTH

RURAL DISTRICT OF WATFORD

IN THE COUNTY OF

HERTFORD

WILLIAM HARVEY, M.D., B.Ch., D.P.H.
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH



FOR THE YEAR

1949



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REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1949.

The Chairman and Members of :—

the Urban District Council of Bushey, ✓

the Urban District Council of Chorleywood, ✓

the Urban District Council of Rickmansworth, ✓

and

the Rural District Council of Watford. ✓

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Annual report on the state of the Public Health, and the reports by the Inspectors on the Sanitary conditions, in the Districts, during the year 1949.

The Registrar-General's estimates of the populations on the areas of the four Districts at the middle of 1949, are :—Bushey, 15,220 ; Chorleywood, 4,700 ; Rickmansworth, 25,000 ; and, Watford Rural, 30,370 ; making a total number of 75,290 persons on the whole area. The populations of the Districts have continued to increase, but at a more normal rate, except in the Watford Rural District where the development of the London County Council and other estates has been responsible for very large additions during the last two years. The two factors influencing the size of a population, namely, the balance between births and deaths, and, the balance from migration, are given below in that order for each District, followed by the total increase, during the period mid-1948 to mid-1949, viz. :—Bushey, 66, 164 (230), Chorleywood, 4,166 (170), Rickmansworth, 164, -84 (80), and Watford Rural, 217, 4,413 (4,630). The Sanitary Services of the Watford Rural District have

continued to deal with the large increases of recent years in an efficient manner.

The birth-rates, with the exception of that in the Watford Rural District, continued to decline from the high rates recorded in the years after the war ; but, with the increased population the total number of births in the four Districts was one more than the previous highest figure of 1,127, recorded in 1946. The numbers of births in the Districts last year were :—Bushey, 221 ; Chorleywood, 57 ; Rickmansworth, 397 ; and Watford Rural, 453 ; making a total of 1,128, of which 573 were boys and 555 girls. The corresponding birth-rates are given in the reports for the Districts.

The Infantile Mortality Rate, or, the number of deaths of infants under the age of one year per 1,000 live births, has been declining over the whole country ; during the quinquennium 1896-1900 the rate was 156, between 1911 and 1915 it was 110, whilst for last year, the low rate of 32 was recorded. The rates in the Districts compare favourably with the rate for England and Wales, but, where the number of births in any district is comparatively small, the rate should be considered over a number of years in comparison with the higher general rate at the time.

The general death-rate of 7.9 persons per 1,000 of the population in the Watford Rural District was one of the lowest recorded ; in the other Districts the rates were rather higher than those for 1948, although still below the rate of 11.7 for England and Wales. There were 21 deaths from Tuberculosis over the whole area, which was equivalent to a fractional death-rate of .27, compared with .45 per 1,000 of the population of the whole country. The causes of death at all ages are given in each District report according to an Abridged List, used in England and Wales and Northern Ireland, and based on the last revision by the International Commission in 1938 ; corrections have been made for outward and inward transfers.

The incidence of the notifiable infectious diseases was not materially different from that of the previous year. There were 41 cases of Scarlet Fever compared with 71 in 1948. The practice for some time with this disease has been to lay special importance on treatment in hospital only in those cases where there is overcrowding in the home, or, where a member of the family is employed in the milk or food supply of the community. Whooping Cough was less prevalent with 71 cases compared with 171 in the previous year.

The increase of 152 in the notifications of Measles compared with 1948 was due to a moderate epidemic of 250 cases in Bushey, but in a healthy and well nourished community the disease is now fairly mild, and no deaths were recorded. There were no cases of Diphtheria, and it may well be stated here that there have only been 5 mild cases, with no deaths, during the last five years. In 1939, which can be taken as the last pre-immunization year, 18 cases were notified over the whole area. Immunization against Diphtheria, which is of a simple nature, is voluntary, and every facility has been provided for the treatment, either, at a Child Welfare centre, or, from the child's own Doctor. It is of importance that children should be immunized when they are about nine months old, so that they will be protected during their early years when the disease is more likely to be fatal. It must never be forgotten that, until a few years ago, Diphtheria was one of the dreaded infections, and, that it is always ready to resume that role in the absence of immunization.

There were a few cases of food poisoning in adults following a day's outing to the sea-side, where they had partaken of cockles, in the course of what was otherwise an enjoyable repast. The gastro-intestinal symptoms commenced after an interval of about ten hours, and recovery did not take much longer.

Acute Poliomyelitis was prevalent in 1947 to an extent which had not previously been experienced in this country. During that year there were 18 cases in the four Districts, compared with 8 during the ten years from 1937 to 1946. In the following year, 1948, there were 5 cases, and, last year, there were 12 cases, of which 3 were fatal.

Poliomyelitis is an infectious disease caused by a known filterable virus, which has an affinity for the roots of the motor nerves. The virus sets up an inflammation which damages the nerve roots, and it is the extent and degree of this damage which determines the amount and permanence of any weakness or paralysis which may develop. The inflammation may be slight, and recovery complete, as in the majority of cases, whilst, in other cases it may be extensive, or, it may involve the vital centres at the base of the brain and cause death. This selectivity of the virus is one of the points about the disease which is not fully understood, although it is known that physical strain or fatigue during the incubation period, or the early stage, of the infection renders the nerve cells

more susceptible to the virus, with a resulting increase in the severity of the disease. The early symptoms are often indefinite, but, pain or stiffness in groups of muscles—particularly of the neck, drowsiness, irritability, sore throat, cough, or gastro-intestinal disturbance, with a rise in temperature, may be regarded with some suspicion in young persons during the Summer and Autumn months if Poliomyelitis is prevalent ; and, as an indication for rest in bed and quietness as a preliminary measure. Young persons on holiday should have adequate periods of rest. Over-exposure of the body to heat or to cold has a depressing effect on vitality and resistance to disease.

The work in the Public Health Departments has been carried out with efficiency by the Inspectors. Special attention was given to the inspection of food, including the arrangements for the manufacture and sale of Ice Cream. Work on the control of flies and mosquitoes continued to be satisfactory. A rodent control service was built up in each district following the delegation by the County Council of its powers under the Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act 1919 ; the local services have been working effectively since the 1st April, except in the case of the Watford Rural District, where the actual transfer was made on the 1st October, 1949.

I have the honour to be,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

WILLIAM HARVEY.

Seventy-sixth Annual Report.

20th November, 1950.

BUSHEY

URBAN DISTRICT

General.

Area of District (land and inland water), 3,866 acres.

Highest Point—London Road at Southern boundary, 506.7ft.

Lowest Point—Near River Colne, 179.2ft.

(above mean sea-level at Newlyn).

Number of structurally separate dwellings occupied, 1st April, 1949; 4,394.

Rateable value at 1st April, 1949; £133,928.

Sum represented by a penny-rate, £540.

Vital Statistics.

Population (Registrar-General's estimates at mid-year) :

1949	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1942	1939
15,220	14,990	14,310	13,800	12,880	12,950	13,550	12,930

Birth-Rate (Live births per 1,000 of population) :

1949	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1942	1939
14.9	16.2	20.7	16.1	14.4	16.1	17.5	13.0

Infantile Mortality Rate (Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births) :

1949	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1942	1939
31	29	27	13	43	38	38	48

Death-Rate.

Vide—Summary “Causes of Death.”

Tuberculosis.

The following notifications and deaths were recorded during the year :—

	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
New cases	3	2
Deaths	3	2

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES

INCIDENCE according to AGE and SEX

1949

AGE GROUPS	Scarlet Fever		Whooping Cough		Ac. poliomyelitis		Ac. polio-encephalitis		Measles (Exc. Rubella)		Diphtheria	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0— ...			1	1							3	
1— ...	1	1	1	2					31	22		
3— ...		2	3						31	22		
5— ...	2	2	5	3					66	54		
10— ...		1			1				2	13		
15— ...				1						1		
25 and over									1	4		
TOTAL ...	3	6	10	7	1	—	—	—	131	119	—	—

AGE GROUPS	Ac. Pneumonia		Dysentery		Smallpox		Ac. encephalitis lethargica		Enteric or Typhoid Fever		Paratyphoid Fevers	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0— ...												
5— ...	6											
15— ...												
45— ...												
65 and over												
TOTAL ...	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

AGE GROUPS	Erysipelas		Cerebro-Spinal Fever		Food Poisoning		Other Notifiable Diseases					
	M	F	M	F	M	F					M	F
0— ...							Puerperal Pyrexia				...	29
5— ...							Ophthalmia Neonatorum...				—	—
15— ...	1						Malaria	...	...	...	—	—
45— ...		1					Plague	...	...	...	—	—
65 and over							Relapsing Fever	...	...	...	—	—
TOTAL ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	Typhus Fever	...	...	...	—	—

THE CAUSES OF DEATH

DEATH-RATE

(Deaths per 1,000 of population)

1949

				Males	Females				
All Causes	...	...	...	74	81	1949	...	...	10.4
1	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	...	...	—	—	1948	...	...	8.1
2	Cerebro-spinal Fever	...	...	—	—	1947	...	...	9.8
3	Scarlet Fever	...	...	—	—	1946	...	...	9.1
4	Whooping Cough	...	...	—	—	1945	...	...	10.6
5	Diphtheria	...	...	—	—	1944	...	...	10.2
6	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System			3	3	1943	...	...	11.5
7	Other forms of Tuberculosis			2	—	1942	...	...	9.8
8	Syphilitic Diseases			1	—	1941	...	...	10.6
9	Influenza	...	...	1	—	1940	...	...	9.7
10	Measles	...	...	—	—	1939	...	...	7.9
11	Ac. Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis	...	...	—	—	1938	...	...	9.1
12	Ac. Infective Encephalitis	...		—	—	1937	...	...	9.2
13	Cancer of buccal cavity and Oesophagus (M) ; Uterus (F)	...		2	—	1936	...	...	8.2
14	Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum			4	3	1935	...	...	9.5
15	Cancer of Breast	...	...	—	1	1934	...	...	8.6
16	Cancer of all other sites	...	...	15	8	1933	...	...	9.7
17	Diabetes	...	...	—	1	1932	...	...	9.5
18	Intra-Cranial Vascular lesions	...		8	9	1931	...	...	8.9
19	Heart Disease	...	...	12	21	1930	...	...	8.1
20	Other Diseases of Circulatory System			5	7				
21	Bronchitis	...	...	5	3				
22	Pneumonia	...	...	5	4				
23	Other Respiratory Diseases	...		1	1	England and Wales			
24	Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	...		—	—	1949	...	...	11.7
25	Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	...		—	—	1948	...	...	10.8
26	Appendicitis	...	...	—	—	1947	...	...	12.0
27	Other Digestive Diseases	...	...	1	1	1946	...	...	11.5
28	Nephritis	...	...	1	1	1945	...	...	11.4
29	Puerperal and post-abortal sepsis			—	—	1944	...	...	11.6
30	Other Maternal causes	...	...	—	—	1943	...	...	12.1
31	Premature birth	...	...	1	—	1942	...	...	11.6
32	Congenital malformation, birth injuries, infantile diseases	...		—	5	1941	...	...	12.9
33	Suicide	...	...	—	1	1940	...	...	14.6
34	Road Traffic Accidents	...	...	—	—	1939	...	...	12.1
35	Other violent causes	...	...	—	3	1938	...	...	11.6
36	All other causes	...	...	7	9	1937	...	...	12.4

SANITARY CONDITIONS

A. C. F. GISBORNE,

Member Royal Sanitary Institute. Inspector, Meat and other Foods.

Housing Statistics.

Number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects under Public Health or Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	255
Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding section) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	114
Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of action by the Local Authority	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	108
Number of structurally separate dwellings erected during the year :								
(1) By the Local Authority	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	58
(2) By other bodies or persons	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	45

Summary of Housing Defects.

The number of defects found on inspection is followed by the number remedied during the year.

SITE.	Cases Found Remedied		Cases Found Remedied	
	(See also 8 and 14)		LIGHTING, VENTILATION. (See also 30)	
1. Outbuildings inadequate or in bad repair	2	2	14. Obstruction to light and air	2 2
2. Approach to back of house unsatisfactory	5	3	15. Window area or opening below standard	5 4
3. Storage of refuse unsatisfactory	11	17	16. Ventilation otherwise defective	4 4
4. Animals improperly kept	—	—	17. Artificial lighting defective	5 5
5. Vermin	—	†		
PREVENTION OF DAMPNESS.				
6. Roof, chimney, defective	33	23	18. Firegrate defective	10 11
7. Gutters, downpipes defective	37	27	19. Rooms inadequately heated	3 2
8. Drainage of ground unsatisfactory	4	4		
9. Walls, doors, windows, defective	36	34	FOOD, COOKING.	
10. Damp-proof course defective	3	3	20. Storage of food unsatisfactory	3 2
11. Sub-floor ventilation defective	4	4	21. Cooking arrangements unsatisfactory	6 5
12. Solid floor defective	9	8	22. Sink and drainage unsatisfactory	7 10
13. Soil against walls above d.p.c.	3	4		
			WATER SUPPLY.	
			23. Water supply not satisfactory	— —
			24. Main supply disconnected	4 4
			WASHING ARRANGEMENTS.	
			25. No bath	2 2
			26. Arrangements for heating water unsatisfactory	3 3

[†] See Rodent Control.

	Cases Found Remedied		Cases Found Remedied	
CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.			REPAIR, DECORATION, CLEANLINESS.	
27. Earth closet defective	—	—	31. Internal structures defective	42 89
28. Water closet, soil drains, defective ...	73	70	32. Decoration in bad state	22 20
29. Approach to outside closet not protected	1	1	33. Lack of cleanliness	4 3
30. Lighting, ventilation, inadequate ...	3	2	34. Infestation with bugs, etc. ...	3 3

INSANITARY HOUSES.

Owing to the general housing shortage it was not possible to deal with many premises under the Housing Acts, as far as demolition, closure or major reconditioning were concerned. One house was reconditioned, an Undertaking to close a cottage was accepted, while in four other cases proceedings were commenced under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936.

Inspections revealed a further eighteen premises that cannot be rendered fit for human habitation at a reasonable cost. These have been added to the list that was first prepared in 1948, for suitable action to be taken when possible.

Over 350 visits were made to premises to enforce the carrying-out by owners of minor repairs, and during the year it was unnecessary to prosecute or do any work in default.

CARAVANS AND MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

A great deal of attention was paid to this problem during the year. In December the whole of the district was surveyed, with the result that no less than 75 caravans were found. Some of the occupiers leave after a few weeks, while others obviously intend to live on the same site permanently or until housing accommodation can be found.

Thirty-eight licences were issued up to the end of the year with regard to individual caravans, but no licences were issued in connection with sites. These licences were all for a short period, expiring at the end of the year, so that the general position regarding caravans can be reviewed from time to time.

Water Supply.

The water supply of the District is adequate and chlorinated.

Swimming Pool.

EXAMINATION OF WATER.

Fifteen samples of the water were taken and submitted for bacteriological examination. These all proved satisfactory. Regular daily tests were made to ascertain the residual chlorine in the water, and the chemical treatment of the water was varied accordingly.

Milk Supply.

Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	39
Notices	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4

Four of the fifteen samples of designated milk submitted for examination failed to pass the tests. In three of these cases, failures were traced to the inadequate sterilisation of dairy equipment.

Twenty-four samples of ungraded milks were examined and nine failures were recorded. As all these failures were milk from farms situated outside the district, the appropriate Authorities were notified.

Inspection of Food.

The following is a summary of food condemned during 1949 :—

80 lbs. bacon, 32 lbs. cooked meat, 103 lbs. carcass meat, 56 lbs. whale meat, 17 tins meat, 108 lbs. sausages and sausage meat, 17 tins vegetables, 94 tins fish, 38 tins milk, 8 tins and 4 lbs. of miscellaneous foods.

Seventy-seven visits were made to various food premises throughout the district, and where necessary suitable action was taken to improve the hygienic standards, the occupiers generally being very co-operative.

Steps were taken to draw the attention of traders to Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, with a result that seven premises were registered. This makes a total of seventeen premises on the Register, including those registered in connection with the manufacture and/or sale of ice cream.

ICE CREAM.

There are two very small manufacturers in the district and ten retailers. No special action appeared necessary during the year in connection with these premises.

Disinfection (1), Disinfestation (2).

Number of cases (1)	19	(2)	97*	Total	116
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Rodent Control.

On the 1st April, 1949, this Council accepted delegation powers under the Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919, and subsequently engaged a man for this purpose. From January to March, 20 complaints were passed to the County Council, while all subsequent infestations were dealt with by the Bushey Urban District Council. The following is a summary of the work carried out from April to December :—

RATS.

Number of treatments of private dwellings	...	...	...	...	...	95
Number of treatments of business premises	...	...	...	...	...	5
Number of treatments of Local Authority's premises	...	...	...	...	...	10
Number of premises surveyed	...	...	...	...	...	189

* Including 47 treatments of Council's refuse—disposal works.

MICE.

Number of treatments of private dwellings	...	...	...	...	2
Number of treatments of business premises	...	...	...	...	3
Number of treatments of Local Authority's premises	...	...	...	...	11
Number of premises surveyed	...	...	...	...	.5

PEST DESTRUCTION (other than Rats and Mice).

Three premises were treated following infestation by bugs. Seventeen other premises were disinfested, while nineteen wasps' nests were destroyed, mostly in or under houses.

An increase in the number of cases over other years has been reported where woodwork has been damaged by wood-boring insects. Attempts have been made to prevent further damage by spraying all woodwork, with a view to the destruction of adult insects, most of the cases dealt with being Council houses built between 1921 and 1931.

Regular treatment of the Council Refuse Tip has been carried out with a view to controlling insect pests, particularly flies.

Public Cleansing.

Contract scheme. Vehicles employed—two low-loading motor vehicles with metal covers and back sliding shutters. Disposal by controlled tipping.

COMPLAINTS AND NOTICES.

The following table indicates the number of Complaints received during the year, the number of Notices served and those complied with. No Court proceedings were necessary :—

Number of Complaints outstanding 1-1-49	...	...	...	...	96
Number of Complaints received during 1949	...	...	...	...	123
<hr/>					
		Total	...	...	219
Number of Complaints complied with during 1949	...	...	...	...	113
Number of Complaints outstanding 31-12-49...	...	...	...	...	106
Number of Informal Notices served	...	...	...	...	77
Number of Informal Notices complied with	...	...	...	...	81
Number of Statutory Notices served	...	...	...	...	7
Number of Statutory Notices complied with	...	...	...	...	7
<hr/>					

ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.

1.—Inspections for the purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises (1)	Number on Register (3)	Number of		
		Inspections (4)	Written notices (5)	Occupiers prosecuted (6)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	7	12	2	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	54	36	8	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	8	12	1	—
TOTAL ...	69	60	11	—

2.—Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (7)
	Found (3)	Remedied (4)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (5)	By H.M. Inspector (6)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ...	4	3	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	2	1	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	1	1	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	4	3	—	2	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	1	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	1	1	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	13	9	—	2	—

Outworkers S.110 (i) (c) :—Number, 4. Notices, etc., Nil.

CHORLEYWOOD

URBAN DISTRICT

General.

Area of District (land and inland water), 2,055 acres.

Highest Point—Near water tower at the Swillet, 410.6ft.

Lowest Point—Junction of Meadow Way and Belfry Lane, 160.3ft.
(above mean sea-level at Newlyn).

Number of structurally separate dwellings occupied at 1st April, 1949, 1,353.

Rateable value at 1st April, 1949, £54,962.

Sum represented by a penny-rate, £225.

Vital Statistics.

Population (Registrar-General's estimates at mid-year) :

1949	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1941	1939
4,700	4,530	4,207	4,058	3,967	4,101	5,128	3,775

Birth-Rate (live births per 1,000 of population) :

1949	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1941	1939
12.1	14.1	13.5	19.0	13.1	17.1	9.0	9.0

Infantile Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births) :

1949	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1941	1939
52	31	52	39	19	14	64	29

Death-Rate :

Vide—Summary “Causes of Death.”

Tuberculosis.

The following notifications and deaths were recorded during the year :—

	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
New cases	—	1
Deaths	—	—

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES

INCIDENCE according to AGE and SEX

1949

AGE GROUPS	Scarlet Fever		Whooping Cough		Ac. poliomyelitis		Ac. polio-encephalitis		Measles (Exc. Rubella)		Diphtheria	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0—	...								1			
1—	...		2	1						1		
3—	...		1						2			
5—	...	2	1	1					5	3		
10—	...									5		
15—	...					1					2	
25 and over										1		
TOTAL	...	—	2	4	2	—	1	—	—	8	12	—

AGE GROUPS	Ac. Pneumonia		Dysentery		Smallpox		Ac. encephalitis lethargica		Enteric or Typhoid Fever		Paratyphoid Fevers	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0—	...											
5—	...											
15—	...											
45—	...											
65 and over												
TOTAL	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

AGE GROUPS	Erysipelas		Cerebro-Spinal Fever		Food Poisoning		Other Notifiable Diseases				M	F
	M	F	M	F	M	F	Puerperal Pyrexia	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Malaria	Plague	Relapsing Fever	Typhus Fever
0—	...											
5—	...											
15—	...											
45—	...											
65 and over												
TOTAL	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

THE CAUSES OF DEATH

DEATH-RATE

1949

(Deaths per 1,000 of population)

					Males	Females				
					20	33	1949	...	...	11.3
All Causes	...	...	...	...		
1	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers...				—	—	1948	...	...	9.7
2	Cerebro-spinal Fever	...	...		—	—	1947	...	...	14.0
3	Scarlet Fever...	...	...	...	—	—	1946	...	...	12.6
4	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	—	—	1945	...	...	9.3
5	Diphtheria	...	...	...	—	—	1944	...	...	11.2
6	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System				—	—	1943	...	...	13.0
7	Other forms of Tuberculosis	...			—	—	1942	...	...	10.7
8	Syphilitic Diseases	...	...		—	—	1941	...	...	10.3
9	Influenza	...	...	...	—	—	1940	...	...	9.7
10	Measles	...	...	...	—	—	1939	...	...	9.6
11	Ac. Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis	...	...	...	—	—	1938	...	...	9.9
12	Ac. Infective Encephalitis				—	—	1937	...	...	10.5
13	Cancer of buccal cavity and Oesophagus (M) ; Uterus (F)	...	...		—	—	1936	...	...	9.7
14	Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum				1	—	1935	...	...	7.7
15	Cancer of Breast	...	...	...	—	2	1934	...	...	10.3
16	Cancer of all other sites	...	...		5	5	1933	...	...	6.7
17	Diabetes	...	...	...	—	—	1932	...	...	10.9
18	Intra-Cranial Vascular lesions	...			3	8	1931	...	...	8.4
19	Heart Disease	...	...	...	6	9	1930	...	...	6.9
20	Other Diseases of Circulatory System				—	2				
21	Bronchitis	...	...	...	—	1				
22	Pneumonia	...	...	...	1	1				England and Wales
23	Other Respiratory Diseases	...			—	—	1949	...	...	11.7
24	Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	...			—	—	1948	...	...	10.8
25	Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	...			—	—	1947	...	...	12.0
26	Appendicitis	...	...	...	—	—	1946	...	...	11.5
27	Other Digestive Diseases	...	...		—	—	1945	...	...	11.4
28	Nephritis	...	...	...	—	1	1944	...	...	11.6
29	Puerperal and post-abortal sepsis				—	—	1943	...	...	12.1
30	Other Maternal causes	...	...		—	—	1942	...	...	11.6
31	Premature birth	...	...	...	—	1	1941	...	...	12.9
32	Congenital malformation, birth injuries, infantile diseases	...	...		1	1	1940	...	...	14.6
33	Suicide	...	...	...	3	1	1939	...	...	12.1
34	Road Traffic Accidents	...	...		—	—	1938	...	...	11.6
35	Other violent causes	...	...		—	1	1937	...	...	12.4
36	All other causes	...	...	...	—	—	1936	...	...	12.1

SANITARY CONDITIONS

W. E. HANDS,

Member Royal Sanitary Institute. Inspector, Meat and other Foods.

Housing Statistics.

Number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects under Public Health or Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	47
Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding section) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	43
Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of action by the Local Authority	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	41
Number of structurally separate dwellings erected during the year :									
(1) By the Local Authority	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
(2) By other bodies or persons	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6

Summary of Housing Defects.

The number of defects found on inspection is followed by the number remedied during the year.

SITE.	Cases Found Remedied		Cases Found Remedied	
(See also 8 and 14.)				
1. Outbuildings inadequate or in bad repair	...	...	—	—
2. Approach to back of house unsatisfactory	1	—		
3. Storage of refuse unsatisfactory	...	6	6	
4. Animals improperly kept	...	3	3	
5. Vermin	...	—	†	
PREVENTION OF DAMPNESS.				
6. Roof, chimney, defective	...	27	23	
7. Gutter, downpipes, defective	...	19	16	
8. Drainage of ground unsatisfactory	...	11	10	
9. Walls, doors, windows, defective	...	5	5	
10. Damp-proof course defective	...	—	—	
11. Sub-floor ventilation defective	...	3	3	
SPACE HEATING.				
18. Firegrate defective	11	11		
19. Rooms inadequately heated	...	...	—	—
FOOD, COOKING.				
20. Storage of food unsatisfactory	...	1	1	
21. Cooking arrangements unsatisfactory	—	—	—	
22. Sink and drainage unsatisfactory	...	6	6	

† See Rodent Control.

	Cases Found Remedied		Cases Found Remedied	
WATER SUPPLY.				
23. Water supply not satisfactory ...	—	—	28. Water closet, soil drains, defective ...	15 15
24. Main supply disconnected ...	—	—	29. Approach to outside closet not protected	— —
			30. Lighting, ventilation, inadequate	— — —
WASHING ARRANGEMENTS.			REPAIR, DECORATION, CLEANLINESS.	
25. No bath 1	—		31. Internal structures, defective ...	18 16
26. Arrangements for heating water unsatisfactory ...	11	11	32. Decoration in bad state 29	23
			33. Lack of cleanliness —	— —
CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.			34. Infestation with bugs, etc. —	— — —
27. Pail closet defective —	—			

Water Supply.

The water supply of the District is adequate and chlorinated.

Milk Supply.

Inspections ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Notices ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—

Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

ICE CREAM.

One application was received for permission to manufacture. A modern plant was installed and the premises were registered. Regular samples were taken and all fell within Grade I. Four premises are registered for the sale of ice cream. Eleven inspections were made throughout the year.

FOOD PREPARATION PREMISES.

Number of premises on register	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Number of inspections ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Notices ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

MOBILE FOOD VANS, ETC.—S.16.

The Council's resolution requiring any person who carries on a business in which any food is exposed for sale from a stall, van, or container, in the open air to have his name conspicuously displayed thereon came into force on the 1st January, 1949. Five food-vans trade in the district and all comply with this requirement.

INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

A summary of the food condemned during the year at various shop premises is set out below :—

14 lbs. bacon ; 9 lbs. cheese ; 14 tins meat ; 84 lbs. cooked meat ;
78 lbs. sausage ; 5 tins fish ; 4 lbs. jam ; 10 tins milk ; 1 tin fruit ;
12 tins vegetables ; 9 lbs. pork pies ; 15 tins miscellaneous foods.

Disinfection (1), Disinfestation (2).

Number of cases	(1)	1	(2)	0	Total	1
-----------------	-----	---	-----	---	-----	-----	-----	-----	-------	---

Public Cleansing.

Direct Labour. Vehicles Employed—One motor vehicle with sliding metal covers. Disposal by Controlled Tipping.

Rats and Mice Destruction Act, 1919.

The powers of the County Council under the above act were delegated to the Council with effect from the 1st April, 1949.

Fifteen cases of infestation were found and treated. Ten per cent. of the manholes on the sewers within the district were baited and found to be free of infestation.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.

1.—Inspections for the purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises (1)	Number on Register (3)	Number of		
		Inspections (4)	Written notices (5)	Occupiers prosecuted (6)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	9	9	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	14	37	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	23	46	—	—

2.—Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (7)
	Found (3)	Remedied (4)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (5)	By H.M. Inspector (6)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	1	1	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) insufficient	1	1	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	2	2	—	—	—

Outworkers S.110 (i) (c) :—Number, 2. Notices, etc., Nil.

RICKMANSWORTH

URBAN DISTRICT

General.

Area (land and inland water), 7,639 acres.

Number of structurally separate dwellings occupied at 1st April, 1949; 7,286

Rateable value at 1st April, 1949, £224,071.

Sum represented by a penny-rate, £916.

Vital Statistics.

Population (Registrar-General's estimates at mid-year) : .

1949	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1941	1939
25,000	24,920	23,690	23,060	21,870	22,440	25,430	19,930

Birth-Rate (live births per 1,000 of population) :

1949	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1941	1939
15.9	16.6	21.7	20.2	15.3	17.8	12.8	18.8

Infantile Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births) :

1949	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1941	1939
28	24	31	34	27	30	69	32

Death-Rate :

Vide—Summary “Causes of Death.”

Tuberculosis.

The following notifications and deaths were recorded during the year :—

	New cases	...	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
			Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
	Deaths	...	...	5	—	—

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES

INCIDENCE according to AGE and SEX

1949

AGE GROUPS	Scarlet Fever		Whooping Cough		Ac. poliomyelitis		Ac. polio-encephalitis		Measles (Exc. Rubella)		Diphtheria	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0— ...			2						2	5		
1— ...		1	8	3	1				8	8		
3— ...			6	3					14	17		
5— ...	4	3	4	4					11	21		
10— ...		2			1					5		
15— ...		1			1					1		
25 and over			1			1			1	1		
TOTAL ...	4	7	21	10	3	1	—	—	36	58	—	—
AGE GROUPS	Ac. Pneumonia		Dysentery		Smallpox		Ac. encephalitis lethargica		Enteric or Typhoid Fever		Paratyphoid Fevers	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0— ...												
5— ...												
15— ...		1										1
45— ...												
65 and over												
TOTAL ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
AGE GROUPS	Erysipelas		Cerebro-Spinal Fever		Food Poisoning		Other Notifiable Diseases					
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0— ...				1			Puerperal Pyrexia...					
5— ...							Ophthalmia Neonatorum					
15— ...		1			1	1	Malaria					
45— ...					5	1	Plague					
65 and over	1						Relapsing Fever					
TOTAL ...	—	2	—	1	6	2	Typhus Fever					

THE CAUSES OF DEATH

1949

DEATH-RATE

(Deaths per 1,000 of population)

				Males	Females	1949	...	...	9.3
				117	116				
1	All Causes ...	...	...	...	—	—	1948	...	8.5
2	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ...	...	...	—	—	1947	...	...	9.9
3	Cerebro-spinal Fever	...	...	—	—	1946	...	...	8.1
4	Scarlet Fever...	...	...	—	—	1945	...	...	10.1
5	Whooping Cough	...	...	—	—	1944	...	...	9.8
6	Diphtheria	...	...	—	—	1943	...	...	10.1
7	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	...	—	5	—	1942	...	...	8.7
8	Other forms of Tuberculosis	...	—	—	—	1941	...	...	8.5
9	Syphilitic Diseases	...	...	2	—	1940	...	...	8.3
10	Influenza	...	...	3	—	1939	...	...	8.5
11	Measles	...	...	—	—	1938	...	...	7.9
12	Ac. Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis ...	...	—	—	1	1937	...	...	6.7
13	Ac. Infective Encephalitis	...	—	—	—	1936	...	...	8.6
14	Cancer of buccal cavity and Oesophagus (M) ; Uterus (F) ...	...	—	—	—	1935	...	...	10.0
15	Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	...	—	3	3	1934	...	...	9.2
16	Cancer of Breast	...	—	—	4	1933	...	...	11.1
17	Cancer of all other sites	...	—	14	10	1932	...	...	10.4
18	Diabetes	...	—	—	2	1931	...	...	10.1
19	Intra-Cranial Vascular lesions	...	—	13	17	1930	...	...	9.3
20	Heart Disease	...	—	32	32	—	—	—	—
21	Other Diseases of Circulatory System	...	—	8	10	—	—	—	—
22	Bronchitis	...	—	7	4	England and Wales			
23	Pneumonia	...	—	5	9	1949	...	...	11.7
24	Other Respiratory Diseases	...	—	2	—	1948	...	...	10.8
25	Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	...	—	—	—	1947	...	...	12.0
26	Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	...	—	—	—	1946	...	...	11.5
27	Appendicitis	...	—	1	—	1945	...	...	11.4
28	Other Digestive Diseases	...	—	1	1	1944	...	...	11.6
29	Nephritis	...	—	1	4	1943	...	...	12.1
30	Puerperal and post-abortal sepsis	...	—	—	—	1942	...	...	11.6
31	Other Maternal causes	...	—	—	1	1941	...	...	12.9
32	Premature birth	...	—	2	—	1940	...	...	14.6
33	Congenital malformation, birth injuries, infantile diseases ...	...	—	4	—	1939	...	...	12.1
34	Suicide	...	—	—	—	1938	...	...	11.6
35	Road Traffic Accidents	...	—	2	—	1937	...	...	12.4
36	Other violent causes	...	—	4	4	1936	...	...	12.1
	All other causes	...	—	8	14				

SANITARY CONDITIONS

C. R. ALEXANDER,

Certificate Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors Examination
Joint Board. Inspector, Meat and other Foods.

Housing Statistics.

Number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects under Public Health or Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	162
Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding section) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	117
Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of action by the Local Authority	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	82
Number of structurally separate dwellings erected during the year :								
(1) By the Local Authority	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	69
(2) By other bodies or persons	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13

Summary of Housing Defects.

The number of defects found on inspection is followed by the number remedied during the year.

SITE.	Cases Found Remedied		Cases Found Remedied				
	Found	Remedied	Found	Remedied			
<i>(See also 8 and 14.)</i>							
1. Outbuildings inadequate or in bad repair	...	4	3	12. Solid floor defective	2	2	
2. Approach to back of house unsatisfactory	3	1	13. Soil against walls above d.p.c.	...	3	3	
3. Storage of refuse unsatisfactory	...	53	42	LIGHTING, VENTILATION.			
4. Animals improperly kept	...	1	1	<i>(See also 31.)</i>			
5. Vermin	...	123	†	14. Obstruction to light and air	...	—	
PREVENTION OF DAMPNESS.				15. Window area or opening below standard	...	3	1
6. Roof, chimney, defective	...	21	15	16. Ventilation otherwise defective	...	—	—
7. Gutters, downpipes, s-w drains, defective	18	13	17. Artificial lighting defective	...	—	—	—
8. Drainage of ground unsatisfactory	...	2	1	SPACE HEATING.			
9. Walls, doors, windows, defective	...	56	34	18. Firegrate defective	12	9	
10. Damp-proof course defective	...	13	9	19. Rooms inadequately heated	...	—	—
11. Sub-floor ventilation defective	...	5	3	FOOD, COOKING.			
				20. Storage of food unsatisfactory	...	5	4
				21. Cooking arrangements unsatisfactory	14	8	
				22. Sink and drainage unsatisfactory	...	9	7

† See Rodent Control.

	Cases Found Remedied		Cases Found Remedied	
WATER SUPPLY.				
23. Well not satisfactory	1	—	29. Water closet, soil drains, defective ...	34 23
24. Water delivered in vessels	—	—	30. Approach to outside closet not protected	— —
25. Main supply disconnected	2	2	31. Lighting, ventilation, inadequate ...	5 4
WASHING ARRANGEMENTS.			REPAIR, DECORATION, CLEANLINESS.	
26. No bath	—	—	32. Internal structures defective ...	39 30
27. Arrangements for heating water unsatisfactory ...	—	—	33. Decoration in bad state	46 37
CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.			34. Lack of cleanliness	4 4
28. Earth closet defective	2	2	35. Infestation with bugs, etc. ...	9 9

Water Supply.

The water supply of the District is adequate and chlorinated.

Milk Supply.

Inspections ... ... ... ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	167
Notices ... ... ... ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11

Summary of Food Condemned During the Year

1,232 lbs. fresh meat, 392 lbs. fresh fish, 104 lbs. tinned meat, 75 lbs. tinned fish, 141 lbs. tinned fruit, 114 lbs. tinned milk, 65 lbs. tinned vegetables, 7 lbs. tinned fruit juice, 38 lbs. tinned soup, 104 lbs. sausages, 48 lbs. butter, 49 lbs. margarine, 81 lbs. cheese, 4 lbs. jam, 1 lb. syrup, 39 lbs. bacon, 50 lbs. flour, 39 lbs. miscellaneous. Total 2,587 lbs.

Disinfection (1), Disinfestation (2).

Number of cases	(1) 19,	(2) 9	Total 28
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Public Cleansing.

Direct labour scheme. Disposal by controlled tipping. Efficient salvage scheme in operation since April, 1938.

Rodent Control

The Council received delegated powers under the Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919, to operate from the 1st April, 1949, and since that date the following is a summary of the work carried out :—

	Private	Business	Council	Total
Complaints received ...	123	39	17	179
Premises inspected ...	198	41	9	248
Total visits ...	1,296	283	113	1,692
Total jobs completed ...	282	66	22	370
Est. number killed ...	—	—	—	4,563
Number of bodies found	—	—	—	999

Canal Boats, Inspection of

Number of boats inspected ...	102	Contraventions ...	24
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Visits and Inspections during the Year

HOUSES.

Public Health Act	...	96
Housing Act	...	56
Overcrowding	...	3
Complaints	...	108

GENERAL—*continued*

Shops Acts	...	...	12
Swimming Places...	...	...	39
Interviews with Owners...	...	...	171
Canal Boats	...	...	102

FACTORIES.

Factories with mechanical power	...	...	89
Factories without mechanical power	...	...	6
Workplaces	...	...	10
Outworkers	...	...	12

RATS AND MICE INFESTATION.

Premises inspected	...	56
Other visits	...	133

GENERAL.

Tents, vans and sheds	...	145
Stables and Piggeries	...	19
Public Houses	...	12
Schools	...	2
Smoke Observations	...	8
Mosquito Control	...	37
Vacant Land and Dumps	...	13
Verminous Premises	...	48
Earwig infestation	...	253
Drainage Inspections and Tests	...	38
Cesspools	...	10
Infectious Diseases	...	67
Common Yards and Passages	...	6

RE-VISITS TO PREMISES UNDER NOTICE

Public Health Act—Houses	...	...	196
Public Health Act—Other	...	...	7
Housing Act	...	...	115

MEAT AND FOODS.

Butchers' Shops	...	...	57
Slaughtering	...	...	3
Fishmongers and Poulterers	...	...	15
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	...	...	7
Grocers and Other Food Shops	...	...	78
Fried Fish Shops	...	...	6
Dairies and Milk Shops	...	...	84
Cowsheds	...	...	83
Milk Samples	...	...	119
Ice Cream Premises	...	...	25
Ice Cream Samples	...	...	12
Restaurants and Dining Booms	40
Bakehouses	5
Other Food Premises	29

MISCELLANEOUS VISITS	...	96
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2,528

ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.

1.—Inspections for the purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises (1)	Number on Register (3)	Number of		
		Inspections (4)	Written notices (5)	Occupiers prosecuted (6)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	9	6	2	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	63	89	14	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	72	95	16	—

2.—Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (7)
	Found (3)	Remedied (4)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (5)	By H.M. Inspector (6)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	9	8	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) insufficient	2	2	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	5	4	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences (not including offences relating to Homework)	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	16	14	—	—	—

Outworkers S.110 (i) (c) : Number, 6 ; Notices, etc., Nil.

WATFORD

RURAL DISTRICT

General.

Area (land and inland water). 18,179 acres.

(Abbots Langley C.P., 4,979 ; Aldenham C.P., 5,660 ; Sarratt C.P., 2,399 ; Watford Rural C.P., 5,141 ; acres.)

Number of structurally separate dwellings occupied at 1st April, 1949; 7,055

Rateable value at 1st April, 1949; £225,923.

Sum represented by a penny-rate; £941.

Vital Statistics.

Population (Registrar-General's estimates at mid-year) :

1949	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1941	1939
30,370	25,740	21,860	21,360	20,370	20,650	26,140	20,280

Birth-Rate (live births per 1,000 of population) :

1949	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1941	1939
15.1	12.9	17.7	16.9	17.2	19.2	11.0	13.9

Infantile Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births) :

1949	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1941	1939
24	36	25	17	26	18	38	56

Death-Rate :

Vide—Summary “ Causes of Death.”

Tuberculosis.

The following notifications and deaths were recorded during the year :—

	New cases	Deaths	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
			Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
	5	4	—	—
	4	3	1	—

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES

INCIDENCE according to AGE and SEX

1949

AGE GROUPS	Scarlet Fever		Whooping Cough		Ac. poliomyelitis		Ac. polio-encephalitis		Measles (Exc. Rubella)		Diphtheria	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0—	...										3	
1—	...	1		1	2		1		11	10		
3—	...	4	3	1	3				16	17		
5—	...	6	4	5	5	2			44	28		
10—	...				1				6	2		
15—	...									2		
25 and over	1					2			2	2		
TOTAL	...	12	7	7	10	3	3	—	79	64	—	—

AGE GROUPS	Ac. Pneumonia		Dysentery		Smallpox		Ac. encephalitis lethargica		Enteric or Typhoid Fever		Paratyphoid Fevers	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0—	...											
5—	...											
15—	...											
45—	...											
65 and over												
TOTAL	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

AGE GROUPS	Erysipelas		Cerebro-Spinal Fever		Food Poisoning		Other Notifiable Diseases					
	M	F	M	F	M	F					M	F
0—	...						Puerperal Pyrexia...		...	...
5—	...						Ophthalmia Neonatorum			—	—	
15—	...				1		Malaria	...	...	...	—	—
45—	1				1		Plague	...	...	...	—	—
65 and over							Relapsing Fever	...	...	—	—
TOTAL	...	1	—	—	1	1	Typhus Fever	...	...	—	—	—

THE CAUSES OF DEATH

1949

DEATH-RATE

(Deaths per 1,000 of population)

				Males	Females	1949	...	...	7.9
All Causes	...	...	...	123	113	1949	...	...	7.9
1	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	...	...	—	—	1948	...	...	8.3
2	Cerebro-spinal Fever	...	...	—	—	1947	...	...	11.3
3	Scarlet Fever	...	...	—	—	1946	...	...	10.1
4	Whooping Cough	...	...	—	—	1945	...	...	9.9
5	Diphtheria	...	...	—	—	1944	...	...	9.3
6	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System			4	3	1943	...	...	9.1
7	Other forms of Tuberculosis	...		1	—	1942	...	...	9.6
8	Syphilitic Diseases	...	...	—	—	1941	...	...	10.0
9	Influenza	...	...	2	1	1940	...	...	10.1
10	Measles	...	...	—	—	1939	...	...	8.8
11	Ac. Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis	...	...	2	—	1938	...	...	7.9
12	Ac. Infective Encephalitis	...		1	—	1937	...	...	10.6
13	Cancer of buccal cavity and Oesophagus (M) ; Uterus (F)	...		—	2	1936	...	...	8.3
14	Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum			4	3	1935	...	...	8.7
15	Cancer of Breast	...	...	—	2	1934	...	...	8.6
16	Cancer of all other sites	...	...	16	12	1933	...	...	10.3
17	Diabetes	...	...	—	1	1932	...	...	9.6
18	Intra-Cranial Vascular lesions	...		5	9	1931	...	...	8.4
19	Heart Disease	...	...	41	36	1930	...	...	7.6
20	Other Diseases of Circulatory System			5	8				
21	Bronchitis	...	...	4	7				
22	Pneumonia	...	...	6	8				
									England and Wales
23	Other Respiratory Diseases	...		2	1	1949	...	...	11.7
24	Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	...		1	1	1948	...	...	10.8
25	Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	...		—	—	1947	...	...	12.0
26	Appendicitis	...	...	1	—	1946	...	...	11.5
27	Other Digestive Diseases	...	...	3	3	1945	...	...	11.4
28	Nephritis	...	...	5	1	1944	...	...	11.6
29	Puerperal and post-abortal sepsis			—	—	1943	...	...	12.1
30	Other Maternal causes	...		—	1	1942	...	...	11.6
31	Premature birth	...	...	2	—	1941	...	...	12.9
32	Congenital malformation, birth injuries, infantile diseases	...		6	2	1940	...	...	14.6
33	Suicide	...	...	—	1	1939	...	...	12.1
34	Road Traffic Accidents	...	...	3	1	1938	...	...	11.6
35	Other violent causes	...	...	2	4	1937	...	...	12.4
36	All other causes	...	...	7	6	1936	...	...	12.1

SANITARY CONDITIONS

S. N. GRIGG,

Certificate Royal Sanitary Institute. Inspector, Meat and other Foods.
A.R.P.S. (1st Class).

Housing Statistics.

Number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects under Public Health or Housing Acts 134

Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation 2

Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding section) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 33

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of action by the Local Authority 21

Number of structurally separate dwellings erected during the year:

(1) By the Local Authority	60
(2) By other bodies or persons ...	939*

*Private enterprise (licences), 9; Building Research Station, 20; London County Council, 900.

Summary of Housing Defects.

The number of defects found on inspection is followed by the number remedied during the year.

SITE.	Cases Found	Cases Remedied	Cases Found	Cases Remedied
<i>(See also 8 and 14.)</i>				
1. Outbuildings inadequate or in bad repair ...	—	—	13. Soil against walls above d.p.c.	... — —
2. Approach to back of house unsatisfactory	—	—	14. Obstruction to light and air	... — —
3. Storage of refuse unsatisfactory ...	82	73	15. Window area or opening below standard	... — —
4. Animals improperly kept ...	3	3	16. Ventilation otherwise defective	... — —
5. Vermin ...	60	60	17. Artificial lighting defective	... — —
 PREVENTION OF DAMPNESS.			18. Firegrate defective	4 3
6. Roof, chimney, defective ...	19	15	19. Rooms inadequately heated	... — —
7. Gutters, downpipes, s-w drains, defective	14	10	 FOOD, COOKING.	
8. Drainage of ground unsatisfactory ...	—	—	20. Storage of food unsatisfactory	... — —
9. Walls, doors, windows, defective ...	21	14	21. Cooking arrangements unsatisfactory	1 1
10. Damp-proof course defective ...	—	—	22. Sink and drainage unsatisfactory	7 7
11. Sub-floor ventilation defective ...	—	—		
12. Solid floor defective	1	1		

		Cases Found	Cases Remedied		Cases Found	Cases Remedied
WATER SUPPLY.						
23. Well not satisfactory	—	—		29. Water closet, soil drains, defective ...	21	21
24. Water delivered in vessels	... ...	1	1	30. Approach to outside closet not protected	—	—
25. Main supply disconnected	... ...	1	1	31. Lighting, ventilation, inadequate	—	—
WASHING ARRANGEMENTS.						
26. No bath	... ...	—	—	REPAIR, DECORATION, CLEANLINESS		
27. Arrangements for heating water unsatisfactory	... ...	1	1	32. Internal structures, defective ...	27	22
CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.				33. Decoration in bad state	2	2
28. Earth closet defective	... ...	4	4	34. Lack of cleanliness	1	1
				35. Infestation with bugs, etc. ...	2	2

Water Supply.

The water supply of the District is adequate and chlorinated. Three samples of water from private wells were found to be satisfactory.

Milk Supply.

(a) Designated milks		Producers	Distributors
Tuberculin Tested	... ...	13	13
Accredited	... ...	7	1
Pasteurised	... ...	1	11
(b) Non-designated milk	... ...	31	44
Number of inspections	... 46	Notices ... 5	

ICE-CREAM.

Number of premises registered :—

(a) for Manufacture...	... 1	(b) for Sale ...	26
Number of inspections	... 38	Notices ... 1	

Meat and Other Foods.

Number of Pigs inspected, 20 ; Number condemned, whole, 0 ; part, 1.

The following is a summary of the Food condemned during the year :—

740 lbs. carcase meat, 51 tins milk, 5 tins fish, 40 tins meat, 34 tins vegetables, 41 tins fruit, jam, etc., 60 lbs. sausages, 25 lbs. bacon, 32 lbs. cheese, 5 doz. shell eggs, 18 lbs. miscellaneous foods.

Disinfection (1), Disinfestation (2).

Number of cases	(1)	28.	(2)	2	Total	30
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Public Cleansing.

(a) Refuse collection—direct labour schemes are in operation in all four parishes of the District. Vehicles employed number seven modern type side loading refuse collection vehicles, each of 10 cu. yds. capacity.

Additional vehicles and staff have been required to cope with the development on the new L.C.C. Housing Estate at South Oxhey, and it is anticipated that a further expansion of the service will be necessary as development proceeds.

(b) Refuse disposal—two tipping sites are available in the District, one at Abbots Langley and one at Aldenham. Tip attendants are employed to supervise and to control tipping.

(c) Cesspool emptying—direct labour scheme in operation covers the whole district. Vehicle used is a Dennis 800 gallon cesspool emptying vehicle. Disposal of contents is as far as possible into sewers in area, otherwise by discharge on farm land.

(d) Emptying of Pail Closets—carried out by direct labour, in parishes of Abbots Langley and Aldenham, and by contract in remainder of district. Pail closets are emptied weekly.

(e) Collection of Salvage—Waste paper collection carried out simultaneously with refuse collection over whole of District. Other waste materials reclaimed from refuse by tip attendants.

Rodent Control.

As from the 1st April, 1949, the Council agreed to accept the delegated powers of the Herts County Council under the Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act 1919. For the six months period ending 30th September, 1949, the Council also accepted the offer of the Hertfordshire Agricultural Executive Committee, to continue on behalf of the Council, the rodent control service which they had hitherto given in the district at the expense of the County Council.

A full time Rodent Operative was appointed by the Council and commenced duties on the 3rd October, 1950, and was provided with a small van for use in connection with his duties. Incorporated in the new five Bay Garages built at Abbots Langley is a small room and garage specially constructed and allocated for Rodent Control purposes.

During the year 60 complaints regarding rats and mice infestation of private dwellings were dealt with; also four complaints of wasps' nests. In addition detailed attention and treatment has been given to the Council's refuse disposal tips. Test baiting of 10% of the Council's sewer manholes has also been carried out with a 100% negative result.

A basic charge of 7s. 6d. is made by the Council for the Rodent Operative's services at private dwellings, but as regards business and commercial premises the entire cost of disinfection is payable by the occupier concerned.

Canal Boats, Inspection of

Number of boats inspected ... 5

Contraventions ... —

ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.

1.—Inspections for the purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises (1)	Number on Register (3)	Number of		
		Inspections (4)	Written notices (5)	Occupiers prosecuted (6)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	2	8	1	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	39	48	2	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	41	56	3	—

2.—Cases in which **defects** were found.

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (7)
	Found (3)	Remedied (4)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (5)	By H.M. Inspector (6)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	3	2	1	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	1	1	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) insufficient	1	1	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	3	2	—	1	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences (not including offences relating to Homework)	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	8	6	1	1	—

Outworkers S.110 (i) (c)—Number, 3; Notices, etc., Nil.

